

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, SO, FR, FT

SUBJECT: SOMALI NOTE CONCERNING DJIBOUTI INCIDENT

1. FOLLOWING IN TELEGRAPHIC STYLE IS NOTE DELIVERED
BY SOMALI AMBASSADOR ADDOU TO ASST. SECRETARY SCHAUFLE ON
FEBRUARY 9:

2. AMBASSADOR OF SDR... HAS HONOR TO INFORM USG OF FOLLOW-
ING:

- ON FEBRUARY 4, 1976 AT 3:30 P.M. DJIBOUTI BASED
FRENCH MILITARY FORCES WITH ARMORED CARS AND HEAVY GUNS
UNEXPECTEDLY ATTACKED BORDER VILLAGE OF LOWYA-ADE WHICH
IS PART OF SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC TERRITORY.

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-- THE ATTACKING FRENCH FORCES HAVE DESTROYED SEVERAL

BUILDINGS, INCLUDING CUSTOMS OFFICES AT LOWYA-ADE, SIX POLICE OFFICERS WERE KILLED, ONE WAS SEVERELY WOUNDED AND THREE OTHERS WERE TAKEN BY FORCE. MANY CIVILIANS HAVE ALSO BEEN KILLED OR WOUNDED. AT SAME TIME FRENCH ATTACKING FORCES OPEN FIRE ON HIJACKED BUS CARRYING FRENCH STUDENTS AND STATIONED AT BORDER LINE. THE FOUR MEN HIJACKERS AND OTHER TWO GOOD-WILL MEDIATORS, ALL SIX BEING NATIONALISTS OF DJIBOUTI, SHOT TO DEATH BY FRENCH

SHARP-SHOOTER SQUAD. SOME FRENCH STUDENTS ALSO KILLED BY THAT SQUAD.

- AS OF FEBRUARY 5, THE FRENCH MILITARY FORCES WERE HOLDING VILLAGE OF LOWYA-ADE AND SITUATION CAN RAPIDLY DETERIORATE WITH GRAVE CONSEQUENCES. FRANCE HAS BROUGHT TO BORDER LINE OVER THREE THOUSAND MILITARY MEN WITH TANKS, HEAVY ARTILLERIES, ARMoured VEHICLES AND OTHER MILITARY HARDWARES.

- ALL THIS HAS HAPPENED WHILE SOMALI GOVERNMENT WAS TRYING TO USE ITS GOOD OFFICES TO ENSURE SAFETY AND FREEDOM OF KIDNAPPED SCHOOL CHILDREN. IN FACT, SOMALI GOVERNMENT TOOK INITIATIVE IN INSTRUCTING ITS ACTING CONSUL GENERAL IN DJIBOUTI TO GET IN TOUCH WITH LIBERATION MOVEMENT LEADERS AND FRENCH AUTHORITIES OF TERRITORY TO MEDIATE SAFE RELEASE OF CHILDREN. SOMALI ACTING CONSUL GENERAL IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENTED INSTRUCTIONS OF GOVERNMENT AND AS A RESULT, TWO MEN EMISSARIES FROM LIBERATION MOVEMENT JOINED KIDNAPPERS TO TALK ABOUT FREEING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN. THESE TWO GOOD-WILL MISSION MEN WERE KILLED TOGETHER WITH HIJACKERS, AS MENTIONED ABOVE, BY FRENCH TROOPS ASSAULTING LOWYA-ADE VILLAGE.

THE KIDNAPPING INCIDENT HAPPENED WITHIN TERRITORY UNDER FRENCH CONTROL BECAUSE OF POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES PREVAILING IN TERRITORY DUE TO ACUTE FUTURE UNCERTAINTIES OVER FATE OF PEOPLE THERE. SOMALI GOVERNMENT'S INITIATIVE WAS NOBLE ACT OF GOODWILL, HUMANITARIAN AND DEMONSTRATION OF FRIENDSHIP TOWARD FRANCE IN ORDER TO HELP CONTRIBUTE TO PEACE AND BETTER PROSPECT FOR SO-CALLED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FRENCH SOMALILAND.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, INSTEAD OF BEING APPRECIATIVE OF SOMALI GOVERNMENT'S GENUINE GESTURE, ARROGANTLY WITHOUT PROVOCATION WHATSOEVER PERPETRATED BRUTAL ATTACK ON LOWYA-ADE, CAUSING DEATH AND DESTRUCTION, INVADDED SOMALIA'S TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY AND AMASSED MASSIVELY ARMED FORCES ON BORDER.

FOR THE FRENCH GOVT'S FLAGRANT ACT OF WAR, THE SOMALI
GOVERNMENT HAS REQUESTED THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY
COUNCIL THE URGENT CONVENING OF THAT U.N. PEACE KEEPING
ORGAN.

THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT APPRECIATES THE SYMPATHY,SUPPORT
AND GOOD OFFICES OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IN THIS
EXTREMELY SERIOUS SITUATION WHICH MAY LEAD TO MORE TRAGIC

CONSEQUENCES.

AMBASSADOR OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AVAILS
HIMSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO SECRETARY OF
STATE ASSURANCES OF HIS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. KISSINGER

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